

Prices and Prospects.

FURNACEMEN HOPE FOR STILL MORE IMPROVEMENT IN COKE

Quality is Slightly Better But Not up to Standard, is the Claim.

ANXIOUS ABOUT WINTER

Little Opportunity Offers to Lay in Stocks Against the Possible Interruptions to Traffic; Market Conditions Very Quiet; Offerings Rare.

Special to The Weekly Courier
PITTSBURG, Oct. 16.—Pig iron production in the United States is believed to be running at a rate of a trifle over 42,000,000 gross tons a year at the present time. The rate in September was a trifle under 42,000,000 tons a year, and broke the record of October, 1917, a rate that was hardly closely approached at any time in 1917. From April to August, inclusive, this year, the rate hovered between 40,000,000 and 41,000,000 tons a year.

The increased rate of pig iron production now witnessed is ascribed chiefly to improvement in weather conditions, but a portion of the credit is given to improvement in the quality of coke. Few furnacemen report more than a barely noticeable improvement in coke quality, however, and the great majority testify to there being much room left for improvement. They are quite willing to recognize that the coal miners have as much to do with coke quality as have the operators, but hopes are entertained that the continued efforts of the Fuel Administration will bear fruit from time to time in steadily improving the quality of coke. It is not maintained that all coke is inferior in quality to that which was furnished in 1916, and with which the blast furnaces made such a remarkable record, but it is held that the poor quality of coke is rather widespread.

As far as improvement in weather conditions has resulted in heavier production of pig iron, but little if any increase in the quantity of coke consumed has occurred. The influence of improving weather has been in the direction of there being less humidity in the atmosphere, and this humidity operates to consume coke, so much more being effective in reducing the coke.

As winter approaches the furnacemen become more restive over the fact that the supply of coke, while approximately sufficient to take care of furnace operations from day to day, does not afford opportunity for laying in any stocks. Almost every furnaceman would be glad to stock a considerable tonnage of coke against interruptions of traffic this winter.

The situation in this respect is certainly not given a brighter aspect by the official statement of Chairman Baruch of the War Industries Board last week. Mr. Baruch paid a warm compliment to Director General of Railroads McAdoo for the willingness with which the director general resounded claim to large quantities of steel that had been allotted to the Railroad Administration and allowed the steel to be diverted to filling General Pershing's increased requirements. Mr. McAdoo promptly said "Pershing first," but Mr. Baruch expressed his fear that by reason of the diversion of this steel there would be traffic difficulties this winter, and he wanted to absolve the Railroad Administration from responsibility. That the statement of the War Industries Board chairman was quite timely is indicated by unimpeachable evidence in the weeklies to the effect that the Railroad Administration has been lax in not calling for more steel.

The coke market continues very quiet as substantially all the production is going out on contract or under allocations of the Fuel Administration. A very moderate volume of foundry coke is offered from time to time, generally on two or three days in the week, all offerings being promptly taken. Offerings of furnace coke continue extremely rare. The market remains quotable at the set limits, as follows:

Foundry, 72-hour selected \$35.00
Crushed, over 2-4 inch \$37.00
Clean screenings, over 1-2 inch \$35.50

The coal distributor of the Pittsburgh district has been allowed to divert 200 carloads weekly from the lake route to retail dealers for domestic use. The local fuel administrator has asked for 450 carloads weekly. This allotment will probably run to November 1, when there will be a larger amount available for domestic distribution on account of the lake season closing. Otherwise the Pittsburgh coal situation is without incident.

The pig iron market continues very quiet, as there are scarcely any open market transactions, and even consumers who are in preferred occupations find difficulty in securing allocations. Some of the large steel interests, which normally make all the iron they can use, are short, of iron, as their scrap supplies are below normal and they need more pig iron to make the same amount of steel. The market remains quotable at the set limits, as follows:

Best \$35.25
Basic \$34.00
No. 1 foundry \$34.00
No. 2 foundry \$33.50
Baltimore \$33.00

Review of the Connellsville Coke Trade.

Statistical Summary.

DISTRICT.	WEEK ENDING OCT. 12, 1918.				WEEK ENDING OCT. 5, 1918.			
	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.
Connellsville	10,602	13,224	6,278	160,087	10,602	13,224	5,605	162,640
Lower Connellsville	17,549	13,403	4,146	162,533	17,549	13,343	3,706	167,520
Totals	28,151	26,727	10,424	322,620	28,151	27,940	9,311	330,160

FURNACE OVENS.	WEEK ENDING OCT. 12, 1918.				WEEK ENDING OCT. 5, 1918.			
	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.
Connellsville	16,086	10,912	6,014	131,107	16,086	11,585	5,341	134,490
Lower Connellsville	5,328	2,955	2,341	36,255	5,328	2,965	2,341	40,005
Totals	22,752	13,897	8,355	167,362	22,752	14,570	8,182	174,495

MERCHANT OVENS.	WEEK ENDING OCT. 12, 1918.				WEEK ENDING OCT. 5, 1918.			
	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.	Ovens.	In.	Out.	Tons.
Connellsville	2,076	2,412	364	28,959	2,076	2,412	364	28,150
Lower Connellsville	11,723	10,415	1,505	156,678	11,723	10,888	865	127,515
Totals	14,799	12,827	1,869	185,637	14,799	13,270	1,229	155,665

SUNDARY		WEEK ENDING OCT. 12, 1918.		WEEK ENDING OCT. 5, 1918.	
Coke, reduced to Coal Basis		495,249		484,380	
Raw Coal shipped		233,666		236,533	
Aggregate Production, Coal Basis		718,915		720,913	

LABOR SHORTAGE AT COKE PLANTS OF U.S. IS QUITE GENERAL

Is Resulting in Decreased Production in All of the Districts.

SHORT 25,000 TONS A WEEK

Is Estimate of the Fuel Administration; Approach of Winter Brackets Southern States, With Plenty of Labor, Are Falling Behind Badly.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The Fuel Administration is manifesting concern over the continued decrease in coke production. Shortage of labor, which is more or less general in coke producing districts, combined with a slowing down in the production of some plants in the south, is resulting in an estimated shortage of 25,000 tons of coke per week, a condition which threatens loss in the output of steel and munitions. Notwithstanding the fact that more than 28,000,000 tons of coke were made during the six months between April and September 21, or somewhat more than one-half the rate of last year's production, the officials of the Fuel Administration held out no hope of overcoming the shortage under existing conditions.

"Three fundamental difficulties," says an official, "contributing to the present situation, are shortage of labor, which threatens loss in the output of steel and munitions, and shortage of labor at the coke plants. Unemployment efforts are being made by employers and government officials to overcome these difficulties by appealing to the patriotism of the men on whom the production and transportation of coal and coke depend, and the success of such appeals is shown in the increased output of the mines and the maintenance of a steady production of coke in spite of the decrease in the number of men employed in the mines and at the coke plants."

"Officials, however, do not attempt to conceal the fact that the situation is causing them grave concern in view of the proximity of winter, and the increasing difficulties of transportation that will inevitably result from cold weather and from the additional strain that is being placed upon the railroads in transporting men to the training camps and carrying troops from the camps to the seaboard."

"Increase in wages has resulted in slowing down production at the coke plants in one of the southern states. The labor in that region consists of negroes and of whites who have not been accustomed to earn more than was barely necessary for a meager subsistence of a century ago. Placed suddenly in possession of more money as the result of a week's work than they ever saw before from one year's and to another, these men quit their jobs after a short time and retire to their cabins in the mountains. They have failed to respond to the appeals made in this matter is attributed to their illiteracy and their consequent unfamiliarity with the issues involved in the war."

"There are more coke plants in operation in the United States today than ever before, and since the first of April of this year there has been a steady increase in the number of by-product plants which has resulted in an increase from 466,223 tons production for the week ending April 6, to 577,550 tons for the week ending September 21. This increase, however, is nearly 63,000 tons below the capacity of those plants."

"Production of beehive coke has been gradually falling off during the period referred to, and those familiar with the industry express the opinion that there will be an increasing reduction in the manufacture of coke in that kind of ovens. This opinion is based upon the increasing demand of the government for by-products indispensable to the manufacture of explosives. These by-products can be obtained only from the by-product of

coke ovens."

The War Industries Board, through the enforcement of its constantly extending program of conservation, is supplementing the efforts of the Fuel Administration, the United States Railroad Administration, and the coke manufacturers to meet the demands of the steel mills and the munitions factories for the materials so vitally necessary to supplying the needs of the military and naval forces of the nation, and officials express the opinion that it will be possible to meet at least the minimum requirements of the nation's war industries.

COAL PRODUCTION FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 5 HELD UP DESPITE "FLU"

Decrease Was 3.6 Per Cent But Total Was Well Beyond the 12,000,000 Tons Mark; Greater Than 1917.

Despite the rapid spread of Spanish influenza in the eastern coal mining regions, both bituminous and anthracite production for the week ending October 5 was up to the seasonal average, says the report of the United States Geological Survey.

The bituminous output for the week was estimated at 12,385,000 net tons, an increase of 1,774,000 tons, or approximately 16 per cent over the production for the corresponding week last year. Anthracite production amounted to 2,652,000 tons, an output about equal to the production of the corresponding week last year. The total production of anthracite for the coal year to date is estimated at 53,703,000 net tons, an increase of approximately 2 per cent over the same period last year.

Reports showing the effect of the epidemic of influenza on the coal production have been received from Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama. The most serious situation is said to be in the Cumberland-Piedmont mines, where many of the smaller mines have shut down and the larger ones are only half manned.

The bituminous figures given for the week ending October 5, while maintaining the average, show a decrease of 482,000 net tons, or 3.6 per cent, as compared with the week of September 28, which produced the vast total of 13,047,000 net tons.

The average production a working day during the week is estimated at 2,097,000 net tons or 295,000 net tons in excess of the daily average of the corresponding week of last year.

WEEKLY RECORD

Of the Production and Shipments of Coke in the Connellsville Region.

The weekly record of production and output of the Connellsville and Lower Connellsville regions for 1918 to date is shown in net tons in the following tabulation:

Week.	Prod.	Ship.	Prod.	Ship.
Jan. 5, 1918	10,602	13,224	10,602	13,224
Jan. 12	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jan. 19	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jan. 26	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Feb. 2	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Feb. 9	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Feb. 16	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Feb. 23	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Mar. 1	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Mar. 8	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Mar. 15	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Mar. 22	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Mar. 29	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Apr. 5	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Apr. 12	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Apr. 19	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Apr. 26	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
May 3	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
May 10	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
May 17	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
May 24	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
May 31	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jun. 7	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jun. 14	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jun. 21	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jun. 28	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jul. 5	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jul. 12	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jul. 19	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jul. 26	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Aug. 2	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Aug. 9	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Aug. 16	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Aug. 23	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Aug. 30	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Sep. 6	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Sep. 13	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Sep. 20	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Sep. 27	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Oct. 4	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Oct. 11	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Oct. 18	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Oct. 25	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Nov. 1	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Nov. 8	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Nov. 15	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Nov. 22	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Nov. 29	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Dec. 6	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Dec. 13	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Dec. 20	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Dec. 27	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827
Jan. 3, 1919	14,599	12,827	14,599	12,827

Unfilled Steel Orders.
NEW YORK, Oct. 11.—Unfilled orders of the United States Steel Corporation on September 30 were 3,297,005 tons, according to the corporation's monthly statement.

Production and Output.

"FLU" DOES NOT KEEP THE REGION FROM MAKING NEW COAL RECORD

COKE TRADE SUMMARY.

The Spanish and other forms of influenza, which began to affect the operation of the coal and coke plants, did not prevent the region making a new aggregate coal production record. Coke output dropped back still more due largely to an increase in the number of idle ovens, but coal climbed to a new height when it reached 266,533 tons. Adding the coal equivalent, 484,380 tons of the coke production of 322,620 tons, the aggregate becomes 750,913 tons, a gain of 32,087 tons. This is quite the largest total as well as the largest gain for a single week thus far this year.

The spread of the influenza to all parts of the region will, it is feared, very materially cut down the present week's output. Last week the closing of the railroads in more or less freight congestion at junction points, the car supply and service were good.

The furnacemen are giving as yet faint praise for the improvement in the quality of coke which has been observable recently, but they insist that the standard of former years has not yet been regained in this respect.

Total Reaches the 750,000 Tons Mark But Coke Drops Back 7,240 Tons.

MORE OVENS BLOWN OUT

Reducing the Active List to 26,727, the Smallest Number in Blast Since June, 1915; Feared that Influenza Will Curtail Operations This Week.

Although the Spanish influenza had more or less affected many sections of the coke region by the latter end of last week, without any alarming or serious outbreak at any particular point, the production, measured in terms of tons of coal, reached a new high record. Coke output made another backward step, not wholly because of the prevailing epidemic, but due principally to the fact that the active oven list was further reduced.

While there was a continued lack of yard labor, such as has existed for a long time, accentuated, no doubt, by influenza cases here and there throughout the region, the forces of the region as a body worked rather better than for many weeks past. Operators are inclined to attribute the greater diligence to the cutting off of liquor supply, through the health department orders to close saloons. This kept the men at home resulting in a full time work schedule for such as had not exercised the precaution to "stock up" prior to the issue of the closing edict. Be that as it may the estimate has been made that fully 90 per cent of the men worked six days without interruption, thereby enabling the region to make a record raw coal production.

Although the coke production is estimated at 322,620 tons, a decrease of 7,240 tons from the preceding week, coal output rose to 266,533 tons, an increase of 32,867 tons. Reducing the coke to its coal equivalent, which is 484,380 tons, the aggregate output becomes 750,913 tons, or a net gain over the previous week of 32,087 tons; both the largest aggregate and largest gain for a single week of the year to date.

As already noted the influenza had only relatively slight effect upon last week's operation, taking the region as a whole, but from present indications the present week will not be so fortunate. From reports now at hand it appears that the infection has broken out in all quarters of the region. The extreme southern end has been especially hard hit, but perhaps not more so than the "Klondyke" section and various parts of the so-called "Old Basin." Some of the smaller plants are being quite seriously handicapped while the larger ones have an increasing list of idle workers due to the ravages of the disease.

With the exception of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, which has suffered a very heavy depletion in its working forces on account of the influenza, the car service and supply has been satisfactory. The inability of the Connellsville division to handle coal tonnage coming off the Fairmont branch, because of the shortage of trainmen, has created a local congestion that has curtailed car supply to mines and open plants served by this company. There is at present no prospect of relief from this condition.

The blowing out of 658 additional ovens, practically all at plants of the H. C. Frick company, brings the active list down to 26,727, the lowest point since June of 1915. The oven changes during the week consisted of the following blown out: Central, 134; Leisenring No. 2, 20; Leith, 16; Lemont No. 2, 350; Redstone, 29; Southwest No. 1, 20; Southwood No. 2, 19; Valley, 51; Yorkrun, 29; Garwood, 4, and Perry, 11, a total of 700. Ovens were blown in as follows: Seagrave, 26; Stewart, three; Tower Hill No. 1, 11, a total of 42, making a net decrease of 658 ovens in the active list.

The estimated production of 322,620 tons for the week ending Saturday, October 12, was contributed by the districts in the proportion of 160,087 tons by the Connellsville, and 162,533 tons by the Lower Connellsville, losses of 2,533 and 4,687 tons respectively, or a total loss of 7,240 tons. Reducing the tonnage was: Furnace, 167,362, a decrease of 7,133 tons; merchant, 155,558, a decrease of 107 tons.

COAL SHORT IN GERMANY

Many Bitter Complaints of Failure of the Coal Administration.
With cold weather close at hand Germany is facing a coal shortage that threatens to be worse than the one that caused so much suffering and so many deaths in the Kaiser's empire last winter according to reports found in German newspapers revealing this country.

Many bitter complaints over the failure of the imperial coal administration to take the steps necessary to insure the poorer citizens of a supply of fuel, together with letters from persons who have thus far failed to obtain coal at all, despite having received their ration cards last spring and filed them with their local dealers months ago.

MEN FOR WAR WORK TO COME FROM LESS ESSENTIAL PLANTS

Will Be Stripped If Necessary to Provide an Adequate Force.

CHANGE OF EMPLOYMENT

Not Change of Location is the Plan the Details or Method of Operation of Which Have Not Yet Been Worked Out; Will Not Interfere With Draft.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—Every industry not absolutely essential to the conduct of the war or to supplying the needs of the civil population will soon be stripped of the men in their employ to supply the ever increasing demands of the war industries under plans now being perfected by the War Industries Board.

No hint was given by Mr. Baruch of the method under consideration for accomplishing this end, except that the success of the plan would necessarily depend upon the cooperation of the men now employed in the less essential industries.

It is the intention of the War Industries Board, Mr. Baruch said, to cause as little disturbance as possible of the present distribution of labor so far as asking the men to leave their present homes for new localities is concerned. The efforts of the board will be directed towards obtaining employment for them in the vicinities in which they are now located, the changes contemplated being one of employment and not of location. This, it is realized, will not be possible in all cases, but it is expected that when the needs of the nation for their services in speeding up the war industries is fully explained to and understood by them, they will be full compliance with the requests of the government.

Manufacturers, it appears, according to Chairman Baruch, whose commodities are indubitably in the class of "less essentials" have failed to grasp the significance of the numerous conferences between other manufacturers and government officials which have been followed invariably by announcements of curtailments of raw materials or of fuel. These manufacturers have appeared to believe that their particular industry would be exempt from the general program of conservation.

Mr. Baruch made it plain that "business as usual" is a dream of the impractical and has no place or part in the plans of the War Industries Board. "The only business of this country today is war and the winning of the war," said Mr. Baruch.

There will be no effort on the part of the War Industries Board to interfere with the operations of the so-called service law, but Mr. Baruch disclosed the lines along which the plans of that board will be worked out in its efforts to obtain men, when he called attention to the fact that there are said to be 250,000 men in the country who are now employed as traveling salesmen. He also referred to the thousands who are still spite of the "work or fight" order of the Provost Marshal General.

It is thoroughly understood that practically none of the men between the ages of 21 and 31 who are physically fit for general military service had have no dependents have been overlooked by the Provost Marshal General. There is little doubt, however, that the War Industries Board intends to take whatever steps are found necessary to supply the needs of the essential war

SLIGO STEEL MILL IS PURCHASED BY NEW YORK CAPITAL

Deal Concluded at Meeting of
Persons Interested in
Pittsburg.

S. C. MUNOZ HEADS FIRM

Announcement made Thursday that the entire stockholdings, ownership and management of Sligo Iron & Steel company of Connellsville, a corporation having a paid-in capital stock of \$150,000, have passed into the hands of interests identified with the Commercial Iron & Steel Corporation and Federal Export Corporation, of 42 Broadway, New York City.

At a meeting held in Pittsburg Wednesday the old officers and directors of the company resigned, and S. C. Munoz, president of the above companies, was elected president of Sligo. Dwight S. Guthrie, formerly of the Republic Iron & Steel company, was elected vice president, in charge of operations; W. W. Darley, formerly of Babcock & Wilcox company, vice president, in charge of sales and secretary; Fred L. Watson, formerly treasurer of American Steel & Wire company, treasurer. The other directors are Sam A. Benner, formerly of the Carnegie Steel company, and Messrs. Harry Raymond and George Pynchon, of the old and well known banking firm of Raymond, Pynchon & Company.

The negotiations for the transfer of the company to the New York capitalists were conducted by Franklin A. Wagner, of the firm of Parker, Davis & Wagner, attorneys, of New York City, and S. G. Goldsmith, of Connellsville. Mr. H. L. Robinson, of the firm of Umbel, Robinson, McKee & Williams of Uniontown, represented the old Sligo interests.

Whether it be peace or continuation of the war to the end that Germany be brought completely to her knees, the outlook for the reorganized Sligo Iron & Steel company, which this week passed into the hands of New York capital, seems to be assured. There was full resumption of the plant on Monday. Two hundred fifty men were given employment.

Men have been at work for several days getting the mill ready for operation. The prospects are that the plant will be run steadily to the end of the war and thereafter.

Approximately 85 per cent of the work to be turned out is for the government in the prosecution of the war. There is a possibility that it will become a limited part of the plant. "We have plenty of orders, plenty of stock. We are in a happy condition," said an official of the company in commenting on the reopening.

Joseph McConnell, who has been in charge of the company's affairs here, will remain in the same capacity, it is understood. Mr. McConnell has been identified with Sligo for many years, has witnessed its ups and downs and what seems to be a permanent "up" and is thoroughly acquainted with the business.

IMMENSE COAL STORAGE PLANT TO BE BUILT BY U. S. STEEL CORPORATION

To Handle Better and Producer Gas
Fuel at the Nettle Island
Coke Plant, Pa.

The United States Steel Corporation "Ordinance Department," now under construction on Nettle Island, Pittsburg, is to include a comprehensive coal-storage and handling equipment for better and producer coal, says Coal Age.

Large coal from the mines on the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers will contribute a large tonnage. Preliminary plans call for a large storage plant with an open yard 150 feet in width, 670 feet in length and means for piling coal 50 feet high, creating a mass of about 90,000 tons.

The high and low water variation of the Ohio river at Nettle Island is 25 feet. To protect the coal from water the yards will be inclosed by extensive concrete walls rising about 9 feet above high-water mark. For track coal unloading pits will be constructed. A traveling coal-handling trolley bridge of about 154 feet span will be provided with a 7½-ton bucket; it will take the coal from barges and let it fall on the storage yard, or it will take coal from a storage pile and deposit it in hoppers, of 250 tons capacity, directly over the coal-preparation building.

The coal-preparation equipment will consist of mechanical feeders, rolls, crushers and revolving screens to size the run-of-mine coal for better or producer use. The prepared coal is to be stored in pits, one for boiler use of 2,400 tons capacity, or 52 hours normal supply, and one for producer use of 3,000 tons capacity, or 40 hours normal supply. A stationary coal-handling bridge provided with one 7½-ton and one four-ton bucket will transfer the prepared coal from storage pits to the bunkers over boilers and producers. An ash-handling and disposal equipment is contemplated, also a water purification installation.

B. & O. Men Move Up.

Two well known employees of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad at Rockwood, have been promoted to official positions. Engineer J. H. Strong has been made road foreman of engines in charge of the Somerset & Cambria branch. Engineer Charles Schuh has been given a similar position on the main line between Rockwood and Cumberland.

Have You Coal Land for Sale?

If so, advertise it in The Weekly Courier.

NATURAL GAS TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY FIXED RULES

Consumers Are Given Classification, Based Upon
Necessity.

"A REASONABLE AMOUNT"

May be Used for Domestic Lighting, Heating and Cooking, but Only for Lighting and Cooking in Hotels and Such Places; Delivery Under Orders.

Under rulings and orders of the United States Fuel Administration consumers of natural gas are to be divided into classes, based upon their necessity for this form of fuel. The supplying companies are forbidden to deliver gas to a consumer of any class until they have delivered to the consumers of every class designated by a lower number, all natural gas to be delivered under contract or under the district fuel administrator's orders.

According to the ruling of the Fuel Administration Class No. 1 includes domestic consumers, who are allowed to use a "reasonable amount" of gas for lighting, heating and cooking in private houses, boarding houses, apartment houses, hospitals and other charitable institutions; but only for lighting and cooking in hotels, restaurants, bakeries and eating places, and heating in hotels where separate rooms are dependent upon natural gas for use in grates and stoves. This class also includes gas-engine power for the production and distribution of natural gas and petroleum and its products and the operation of gas engines for the production of coal.

Class No. 2 limits the use of natural gas to engine power, including the generating of electric current for industrial purposes to plants engaged in manufacturing munitions and other essential war articles under government orders to the extent that current is needed in the manufacture of such orders.

Class No. 3 embraces the use of gas where now used for heating buildings not included in Classes 1 and 2, and all other classes of gas engines where other power cannot be used, and for gas engines for generating electric current for street cars and domestic service, the heating and lighting of business offices and stores where other means for the production of heat and light cannot reasonably be substituted.

Class No. 4 limits the use of natural gas for the production of food products, and industrial consumers engaged in manufacturing munitions and other essential war articles to the extent that gas is needed in the manufacture of essential war articles under government orders, and for the generating of steam power for public utilities.

Class No. 5 includes the use of natural gas for all other purposes. Classification of users of natural gas contracted for hereafter will be fixed by the Fuel Administration, and dealers in such fuel will be under the control, in their operations, of the local fuel administrators of their districts.

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GERMANY DESTINED TO LOSE ABOUT 80 PER CENT OF HER IRON ORE SUPPLY

When Her Army is Driven Out of the
Ruhr Basin and Alsace-Lorraine
is Restored to France.

Approximately 80 per cent of Germany's iron ore deposits lie in the immediate vicinity of Metz, the great German fortress toward which the all-American drive of General Pershing is heading. On all sides it is admitted that Germany's war-making strength will be damaged badly if the Ruhr ore basin—wreathed from France in the first days of the war—and the ore deposits of Lorraine—snatched from France in the Franco-Prussian war—are won back to the French and American forces in the region. This is more than a possibility, it is a certainty of the near future and will be the result of the surrender of Germany to the Allies.

Of the 28,000,000 tons or so of iron ore which Germany mined annually just before the war, fully 21,000,000 tons came from the region now figuring in the war dispatches. This left only 7,000,000 tons to be produced elsewhere in Germany, and these 7,000,000 tons were by far the lower grade ores. Outside of the Luxembourg deposits, which with the Lorraine ores were diverted to the great steel iron and steel center in Westphalia, said to be second only to the Pittsburgh district, Germany's iron and steel making is confined largely to a district about 50 miles square in Silesia, near the southeastern border. This Silesian district contains eight steel works, about 30 blast furnaces and nearly 300 puddling furnaces. Iron ore which supplies these furnaces analyzes about 50 per cent silica, 35 per cent iron and 1 per cent zinc. The nearby coal fields give up a good steam but a poor coking coal.

Germany's imports of iron ore in 1913, the year before the war, amounted to 4,564,000 tons, while France's was 3,811,000 tons and Spain's 3,632,000. Obviously, the war has decreased imports considerably. Then were Germany to be deprived of her ore supplies from the Ruhr and Longwy basins and shipments from the Lorraine fields, crippling of her iron and steel industry would be a mild term. In fact, largely she has fought the present war with French ore and additional coal supplies from France and Belgium.

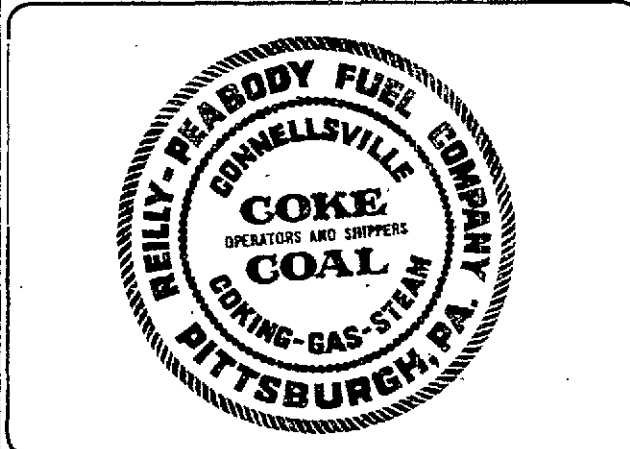
Subscribe for The Weekly Courier.

LIST OF COKE OVENS IN THE LOWER CONNELLSVILLE DISTRICT

With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to
Saturday, October 12, 1918.

Ovens	In Works	Name of Operators	Address
MERCHANT OVENS			
49	Adah	Westland-Fayette Coke Co.	Greensburg
400	Allie	W. Harry Brown	Allie, Pa. Co.
252	Allison No. 1	W. J. Rainey	New York
200	Allison No. 2	W. J. Rainey	New York
142	American No. 1	Reilly-Peabody Fuel Co.	Pittsburg
240	American No. 2	Reilly-Peabody Fuel Co.	Pittsburg
40	Anita	The Wilkey & Peaslee C. Co.	Uniontown
12	Bellevue	Bellevue Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburg
257	Besco	Champion Gas Coal Co.	Pittsburg
20	Browning	Browning Coke Co.	Uniontown
10	Brownsville	Brownsville Coke Co.	Uniontown
34	Burdinal	Clark Coal Co.	Smithfield
205	Century	Century Coke Co.	Brownsville
40	Champion	Champion Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
120	Clarks	Clarks Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburg
236	Derbo	Reliance Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburg
402	Donald 1 & 2	Consolidated Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
150	Donald 3	Consolidated Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
148	Edna	Watersburg Coke Co.	Uniontown
32	Emory	Sunshine Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
82	Finley	Jas. Byrne & Co.	Uniontown
80	Fronta	South Fayette Coke Co.	Uniontown
119	Garwood	Aetna-Connellsville Coke Co.	Connellsville
53	Genuine	Genuine Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
200	Griffin No. 1	Hecla Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburg
200	Griffin No. 2	Hecla Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburg
210	Herbert	Connellsville Central Coke Co.	Pittsburg
45	Hillside	Westmoreland Gas Coal Co.	Pittsburg
12	Hill Top	E. Connellsville Coke Co.	Connellsville
124	Hoover	James H. Hoover	Rocklandtown
38	Hope	Hope Coke Co.	Uniontown
195	Hustead	Hustead-Semans C. & C. Co.	Uniontown
250	Isabella	Hecla Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
24	Juniator	Juniator Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
140	Katherine	Union Connellsville Coke Co.	Uniontown
220	Lafayette	Atlas Coke Co.	Hecla
20	Leahville	Leahville Coke Co.	St. Pleasant
400	Lincoln	Lincoln Coal & Coke Co.	Scottdale
40	Little Gem	The Bixler Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
250	Low Price	McKee Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburg
34	Luserna	Cville Central Coke Co.	Pittsburg
64	Marion	Southwestern Gas Coal Co.	Uniontown
132	Mendelson	Mendelson Coke Co.	Uniontown
400	Mr. Hope	Mr. Hope Coke Co.	Uniontown
60	Murphy	Edward Coal & Coke Co.	Connellsville
100	Old Home	W. J. Parshall	Uniontown
400	Orient	Orient Coke Co.	Uniontown
402	Puritan	Puritan Coke Co.	Uniontown
30	Perry	Perry Coke Co.	Pittsburg
72	Plumer	Plumer Coke Co.	Uniontown
121	Poland	Poland Coal Co.	Pittsburg
120	Rich Hill	Rich Hill Coal & Coke Co.	Outcrop
246	Royal	W. J. Rainey	New York
30	Sackett	H. R. Sackett Coal & Coke Co.	Smithfield
25	Sapper	Reilly-Collings C. & C. Co.	Uniontown
278	Sebright	Taylor Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
260	Shamrock	Fayette Coke Co.	Uniontown
210	Starling	Consolidated Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
40	Stardine No. 2	McKee Coal & Coke Co.	McKeesport
400	Thompson 1	Thompson-Cville Coke Co.	Pittsburg
400	Thompson 2	Thompson-Cville Coke Co.	Pittsburg
120	Tower Hill 1	Tower Hill Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
244	Tower Hill 2	Tower Hill Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
34	Virgie	Byrne Coal & Coke Co.	Scottdale
400	Washington 1	Washington Coal & Coke Co.	Dawson
500	Washington 2	Washington Coal & Coke Co.	Dawson
76	Wineland	Hanning-Cville Coke Co.	Uniontown
50	Winmore	Winmore-Gilmers C. & C. Co.	Uniontown
26	Yakoo	Whyley Coke Co.	Uniontown

11,723	10,418	FURNACE OVENS.	
120	Atchison	Republic Iron & Steel Co.	Gann
100	Bridgeport	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
470	Brier Hill	Brier Hill Coke Co.	Brier Hill
428	Buffington	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
250	Colonial No. 1	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
135	Colonial No. 2	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
100	Colonial No. 3	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
100	Colonial No. 4	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
250	Deaton	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
208	Edenborn	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
208	Fairbank	Struthers Coal & Coke Co.	Fairbank
400	Fostedale	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
208	Gessary	McKee Coal Co.	Leetonia, O.
200	LaBelle	LaBelle Coke Co.	LaBelle
462	Lambert	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
516	Leckner	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
244	Martin	Republic Iron & Steel Co.	Youngstown, O.
30	Newcomer	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
400	Republic	Republic Iron & Steel Co.	Uniontown
250	Roscoe	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburg
2,825	2,785		



ESTABLISHED 1872. INCORPORATED 1904.

Eureka Fire Brick Works

Eureka Manufacturers of high-grade E. F. B.
Bradoc Fire Brick for Mill, Glasshouse, Rectangular, By-Product and Bee-Hive Coke Ovens. Victor

DIFFICULT SHAPES A SPECIALTY.

Office and Works, Mt. Braddock, Pa. Bell Phone 49, Dunbar

JUDGE GARY SAYS WE MUST CONTINUE TO LEAD IN STEEL AFTER THE WAR

Will Be a Vast Demand for Both Domestic and Foreign Trade; Nothing Too Big for the U. S.

Judge Gary, chairman of the board of the United States Steel Corporation, is optimistic on the future of the steel business in the United States. The Judge admits there will be great pressure of reorganization and readjustment in the steel business, as well as in other lines, but reminds American business men that this is the leading country in the world; that the wealth of the world is largely here, and that we must continue to lead.

"The steel plants of the United States are nearly 100 per cent on war material. The ordinary demands for steel have been ignored and are piling up. There will be practically two years of unfulfilled 'peace' requirements of 500,000 tons, if peace were to come today. On top of this there will be the demand for the expansion due to changed conditions. There will be a vast demand for foreign trade.

There will be tremendous pressure on the steel plants after the war. There are changing conditions in the industry and everybody realizes that with the coming of peace there will be radical readjustments to be made.

STRIKE SETTLED

Local Government Agents Intervene in Dispute at Scottdale.

Through the efforts of D. T. Hittman, agent here of the United States Employment Service, and Inspector James S. Darr a strike of employees of the Electric Sterilizing & Osone company at Scottdale has been amicably settled and the men have returned to work. The plant is working 100 per cent on war supplies.

The men struck because of the discharge of a fellow employee and later

Connellsville Machine and Car Company

CONNELLSVILLE, PA.

—Manufacturers of—

LAFAYETTE PUMPS

Steam, Air and Electric Driven

We make a specialty of Wood Lined Pipe and Fittings

J. P. BRENNEN, President.
J. V. THOMPSON, Vice President.

THOMPSON CONNELLSVILLE COKE CO.

800 OVENS. MONTHLY CAPACITY 12,000 TONS.

STANDARD CONNELLSVILLE FURNACE COKE.

WORKS:
Thompson No. 1 400 Ovens,
Thompson No. 2 400 Ovens,
Near Republic Station,
Fayette County, Pa.

CONNECTIONS:
Pennsylvania R. R.,
Pittsburg & Lake Erie R. R.,
Baltimore & Ohio R. R.

PITTSBURGH OFFICE:
2102 First National
Bank Bldg.,
Pittsburg, Pa.

OUR COKE IS OF HIGHEST QUALITY. ANALYSIS FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.
As all of our drawing is done by the Mechanical Engineer, none of the Foundry Coke is eliminated. Purchasers are consequently assured of a uniform quality of Furnace Coke.

HERBERT DA PUY, President.

Connellsville Central Coke Co.

General and Sales Office, 1211 Empire Building, Pittsburg, Penna.
Works:—Low Price No. 1, Herbert No. 2, near Uniontown, Pa.

Standard Connellsville Coke

MONTHLY CAPACITY 32,000 TONS. P. R. R., P. & L. E. R. R. and B. & O. R. R. Connections

Coke low in Sulphur and Phosphorus and of strong physical structure.
Our Coke at HERBERT WORKS is made in LONGBURN FURNACE OVENS and is entirely mechanically handled, thus eliminating by screening all dust and dirt.

ANALYSIS FURNISHED ON REQUEST

Graceton Foundry Coke

Our Foundry Coke is unexcelled by any. Its low sulphur and ash and high fixed carbon make it superior to many. It has the ability to give high melting points in your foundry.

GRACETON COKE CO.

Graceton, Penna.

G. L. ARMSTRONG, Pres.
J. E. MAGONCH, Sec.-Treas.
McGAIN CHANDLER, Shop Man.

The Crossland Wagon Works Co.

South Ninth Street, West Side, Connellsville, Pa.

Wagons, Cams, Cokes Barrows.

All Kinds of Repair Work Done on Short Notice.

Try Our Classified Ads.
It's Money Well Invested

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FAIRER GASOLINE RULES

The decision of the Fuel Administration to substitute a day-to-day conservation plan for the present "gasless" Sunday, will be a much more reasonable, fairer, and ought also to be a more effective, method of bringing about a lessened consumption of the highly important and necessary fuel.

That the curtailment in consumption which has been in effect for some weeks has been the result of a voluntary acquiescence by motor vehicle owners to a request, is a magnificent testimonial to their temper and spirit as patriotic citizens. They have complied with it with but rare exceptions and quite as readily as would have been expected had the request been in the form of an official mandate carrying severe penalties for its violation.

The quick recognition of the national need to conserve gasoline for war uses and the willingness to do all that was required to meet the need, is one of the best reasons why some other and better means should be adopted to accomplish the same end. Making Sunday the only day in the week when gasoline saving regulations were in force has worked some hardship to automobile owners, particularly those who are fully engaged on each of the six working days of the week. Depriving such persons of the use of their cars on Sunday has had the effect, in most instances, of depriving them of this form of recreation entirely. Car owners whose circumstances permit them to take pleasure outings on days other than Sunday have therefore enjoyed privileges that were denied other car owners. This condition has operated as a discrimination in favor of this class and against those who are differently circumstanced.

Instances are not lacking, in the industrial districts, where workers who are owners of cars have laid off one day a week in order to take an outing which they had been accustomed to take on Sunday before the "gasless" Sunday request was made. Being engaged in the industrial work, the loss of their time has been a more serious detriment to the war program than would have been a larger consumption of gasoline.

The proposed new plan of applying certain conservation rules to the use of gasoline every day in the week including Sunday, will remove the temptation of industrial workers to lay off from their work in order to have a day's pleasure, but of less importance will be the fact that it will place every car owner, rich and poor, upon the same basis as to privilege in the use of his vehicle.

It is the loss of this stimulus, the feeling of discrimination which has been a consideration of importance second only to saving gasoline for war uses and keeping war work going at top speed.

Business and Public Health. Some persons, particularly those engaged in various lines of business in the city, are complaining that the restrictions in force with a view to checking the spread of influenza in its several forms, are hurting business.

That such is true there can be no doubt, but an uncontrollable epidemic would hurt business infinitely worse. Between the two conditions it is certainly the part of business prudence, not to mention other and more weighty considerations, to accept the inconveniences imposed than to invite even greater peril.

With the training we have had as a community and as individuals, through the promotion of all the activities necessary to winning the war, we ought to be just as willing to place the public welfare as far above individual interests as we have been placing patriotism above all selfish considerations. And stamping out the prevailing malady is quite as necessary to winning the war as stamping out pro-Germanism has been necessary to the rate of progress of the war program.

There are always differences of opinion between professional people themselves, and between them and the laymen upon almost every matter in which the public has an interested concern. The present instance is no exception to the rule. Some of the physicians are persistent in the belief that no real cases of Spanish influenza have developed in the city. Others, presumably as well qualified to judge, are convinced that some of the cases under their observation are influenza of the type that is exacting a terrible toll of human life in other sections of the country. The latter are urging that every possible measure be employed to prevent a spread of even the milder forms of the infection, fearing it may be the source from which more serious cases may develop.

These differences of opinion are shared by the non-professional public to the extent that some persons consider it wholly unnecessary to adopt any precautions, while others believe we have been too slow in taking steps and not sufficiently exacting in the regulations for safeguarding the public health. Whatever may be the exact truth of the situation, both as to the character of the disease and the measures to combat its spread in the city, the fact must be faced that a certain danger is present that a really alarming condition might develop if we disregard the precautions experience has proven should be applied during the prevalence of any communicable disease.

The temporary effect on business, resulting from the existing regulations, will be as nothing compared with the effect that would follow a widespread epidemic in the city and vicinity. This should be considered rather than the interference with business by complaints about.

The whole community shares with the members of the Medical Detachment of the 11th Infantry, and the friends of Private Lloyd J. Shaw, the belief that the loss of his life is a national tragedy. The organization has performed its duty in so truly a magnificent way that very few of its members are without marks of their devotion and courage. Hence the deeper regret that a single member should not have been permitted to return.

This may be your last chance to buy tax-free bonds. Better take it.

MAKING THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY JOB HAS BEEN FINISHED

"Well," said the captain of artillery, as he stood watching three Yanks playing baseball in the Tuilleries garden in Paris, "I guess that if we came over here to make the world safe for democracy, we have finished the job and can go home."

"Look," pointing to the three baseball players. "One of these men is an American soldier, one is a Y. M. C. A. secretary, and one is a Y. M. C. A. secretary."

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LEAVE IT TO FOCH

The point for Americans to keep clearly in their mind, in connection with the discussion that has followed Germany's request for an armistice, is that the granting or refusal of that request, not the fixing of the terms and conditions of peace, is the sole matter at present at issue. The burden of point ought also to be clearly understood that Germany's request for an armistice having been made to the civil government of the United States, President Wilson has done all that he can do by acquainting Germany with the fact that the determination of the matter rests with the supreme military authorities in the field. An armistice being a military expedient, the military advisers of a government, as President Wilson makes plain in his reply of Monday, are to be the judges of what constitutes "satisfactory" safeguards and guarantees of the maintenance of the present military supremacy of the armies of the United States and the Allies in the field.

Under the customs and usages of war, and by virtue of his authority as supreme military commander in the field, Marshal Foch will have all power and authority to answer the request for the armistice in such manner and form as, in his judgment, will protect the military situation of the forces under his command. In the case of Bulgaria, General D'Esperey, the commander of the Allied armies, deemed unconditional surrender and demobilization essential to the proper protection of the military supremacy of his armies. With the same confidence we can depend upon Marshal Foch to make secure the great victory he has won.

Meanwhile let us give thoughtful consideration to the suggestion of Frank H. Simonds, the well-informed military expert, who says:

"Let us put aside all this pestiferous talk about peace terms at this stage of the game. If we fail to do this we shall presently be led away from the main facts, just as the German hopes. The terms of peace are to be framed by the nations allied against Germany in conference. They cannot be framed in advance of a submission of Germany."

Leave it to Foch to make Germany's submission as complete and unconditional as was the submission of Bulgaria.

Truth Will Prevent Alarm. There is a little in the influenza situation in Conneltsville to cause alarm, but there is sufficient in it to make it the very serious duty of every person to exercise every precaution common sense dictates should be used.

Nothing is quite so essential in meeting the extraordinary circumstances in life as a cool head and a firm determination to yield to no unnecessary excitement or fear. Such should be the attitude assumed by all with respect to the influenza while at the same time taking every possible care. By recognizing the possibilities of danger we ought also to have the good sense to so order our daily lives that everything we do will tend to lessen the peril to ourselves and the community. It is needless, therefore, for the public to know the exact truth of the situation. Nothing can be gained, but very serious consequences may ensue, if a course is pursued that will result in the public having a false sense of security from the dangers.

The American people as a whole have shown themselves equal to the task of meeting every emergency once they are correctly informed of the conditions. They will face the influenza epidemic with the same calmness and courage if they know that it is no worse than a flu epidemic, but that it is bad enough to demand serious attention. Knowledge of the facts will prevent alarm, not excite it.

ARCHIE BROWN HONORED. Letter From France to Mother Speaks of West Side Boy Decorated.

Mrs. Mary G. Brown, of Seventh street, West Side, Thursday received a letter from her son Archie J. Brown who went to France with Company D, 11th Infantry, and has been decorated with the Croix de Guerre.

Brown was transferred from Company D to Company C of Somerset on his arrival in France. The letter, written on September 17 by the chaplain follows:

"My Dear Mrs. Brown: Your decorated son is in a Red Cross hospital here (Paris) having been gassed, which gives him some discomfort. He is wanting me to tell you a line not to worry about him and to tell you of his love for you, and that he is resting comfortably and well. He is doing everything in our power for his physical and spiritual welfare."

"He takes pleasure in talking about you. As soon as he is able a line will go to you from him. Meanwhile be brave in the Red Cross as doing everything for your dear son's comfort. He sends love to you."

DR. MILTON GOLDSMITH. In Charge of an Influenza Hospital in Indiana County.

Dr. Milton Goldsmith, of Pittsburg, son of Henry Goldsmith of West Crawford Avenue, is doing effective work as a volunteer in dealing with the influenza epidemic.

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